



## WHAT IS WOLOWEYAH?

### CAN ANYONE HELP?

Writing to the Editor of *Dawn*, Mr. W. B. Fleming, Box 14, Maclean, New South Wales, says:—

“I would appreciate any assistance you could give me in ascertaining the aboriginal significance of a local place name.

Near a place called Angourie, some three miles south of Yamba, Clarence River, within the Parish of Yamba and county of Clarence, there is a large sheet of water, joined to the Clarence by two anabranches. Locally it is generally referred to as “The Lake”, and is well known under that name as a fertile fishing ground. On the Parish map it is named, and it is also widely known as, Woolooweyah Estuary.

Further south along the coast there are two large freshwater lake-like sheets of water, in an area known as Wooli Wooli. I would not doubt that double name has the usual significance, referable to the two such waters in close proximity; and I assume that the ‘wooli’ means water, or some attribute of fresh water perhaps. I imagine that the name Woolooweyah is a bad rendering of the original descriptive name given the estuary I refer to; and that the ‘wooloo . . .’ is a corruption of the same sound as is applied in the name Wooli Wooli.

I have bought, for my daughter, quite an area fronting the estuary, and we would be very glad if we could learn what the name Woolooweyah is likely to have been in its original sound, and, particularly, as to what is likely to have been the significance of ‘. . . weyah’.

Mr. Allan Cameron, of Ashby and Ulugandahi, tells me that there is no member of the aboriginal race in this area now upon whom reliance could be placed in a rendering of the name and its meaning. The suggestions offered as genuine and correct meanings of the name by the older white residents are remarkable only for their variety and unlikeliness. As owners of a station property known as Ulah, on the Barwon, we are aware of just how little is correct in the local renderings of the origins, correct basic sounds, and meanings of what pass for aboriginal place names.”

Can anyone help Mr. Fleming?

Murrin Bridge residents welcome the arrival of the new Assistant Manager and hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

The sympathy of Murrin Bridge Residents goes out to Mrs. Alf Naden who recently lost her young son Frederick Henry.

Congratulations to Mrs. Hazel King of Murrin Bridge on the birth of a new son, Lionel.

Congratulations also to Mrs. Hilda Ferguson on the arrival of a brand new daughter, Kitritna Rose.

Mrs. Alf Naden of Murrin Bridge is celebrating the birth of a daughter.

Murrin Bridge residents, all very fond of song and dance, complain that the station dances are held far too seldom.

Miss Betty Black and Mr. Reg Naden of Murrin Bridge have announced their engagement, but at the moment no definite date has been set for the wedding.



Ross and Audrey McKenzie, of Uralla